

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are pending in the application. The specification has been amended herein to correct minor typographical errors. Favorable reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

I. ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indicated allowability of claims 4-9. These claims will be in condition for allowance upon being amended to independent form.

II. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-3 UNDER 35 USC §102(b)

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) based on *Ohmori et al.* Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 recites a feature whereby the capstan section is secured to a second chassis surface substantially perpendicular to a first chassis surface on which the cylinder is provided. This feature is exemplified in Fig. 3 of the present application, in which the capstan section 54 is secured by screws 80 to the rear wall 78 substantially perpendicular to the main chassis surface on which the cylinder 46 is mounted.

The Examiner refers to Fig. 1 of *Ohmori et al.* (reproduced below) as teaching the claimed structure. The Examiner construes the first chassis surface to be the chassis surface 15 on which the cylinder is mounted, and the second chassis surface to be the capstan motor holder 6 secured to the main chassis surface 15 by a screw 16. The Examiner submits that the capstan 22 and the capstan motor 5 are secured to the chassis by virtue of being secured to the holder 6 representing a second chassis surface different from the main chassis surface 15 on which the cylinder is mounted.

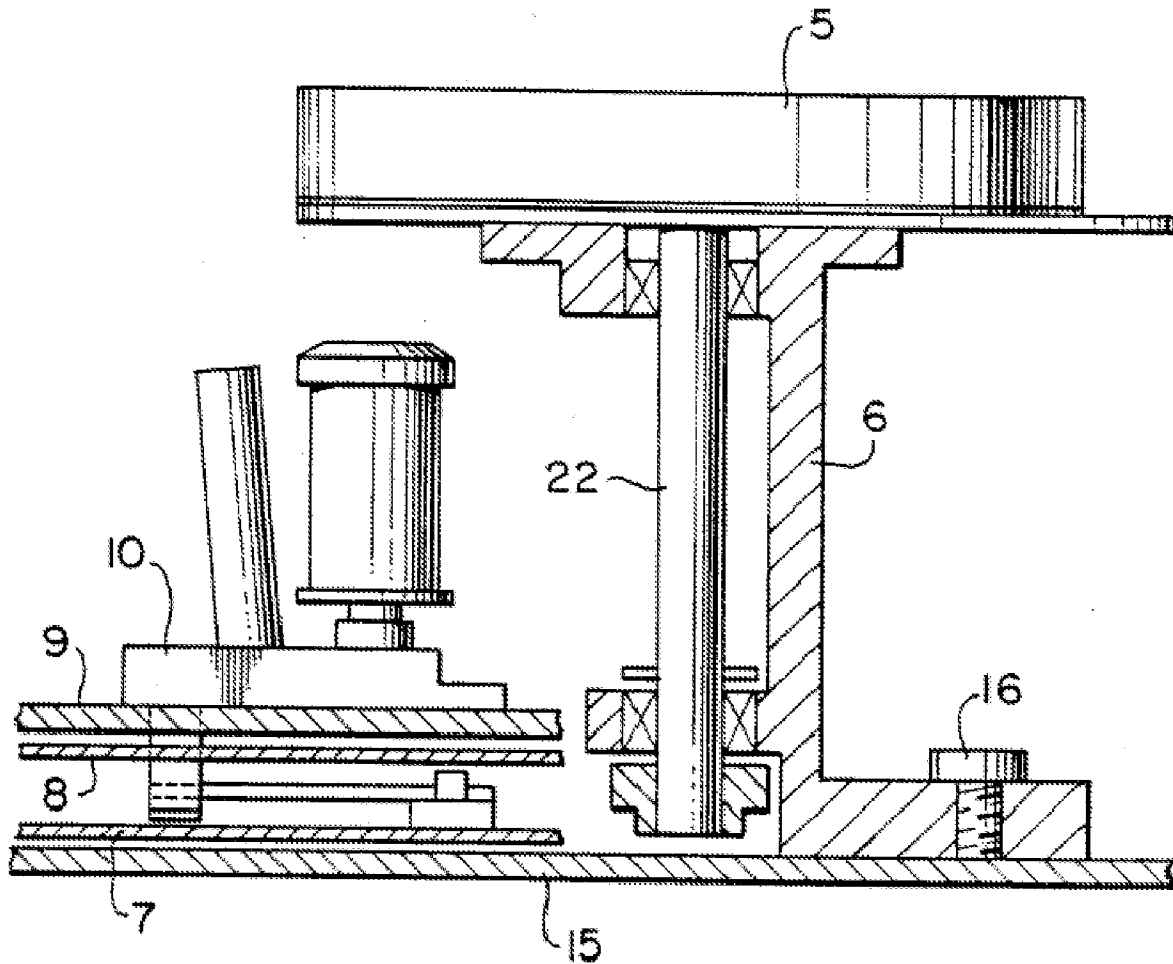


Fig. 1 of Ohmori et al.

Applicants note initially that claim 1 recites “a second chassis surface”. For example, the specification discloses that the main chassis 50 includes a first chassis surface and a second chassis surface. (See, e.g., Spec., p. 8, Ins. 27-29). That is, a first surface of the main chassis 50 and a second surface of the main chassis 50. However, in contrast, the holder 6 of *Ohmori et al.* is not a surface of the chassis 15 whatsoever, thus, it is improper to be construed as a “second chassis surface”.

Instead, the holder 6 is a separate element that is secured to the chassis 15 with a setting screw 16. (See, e.g., Col. 5, Ins. 7-10 of *Ohmori et al.*).

Still further, the capstan motor 5 having the capstan shaft 22 in *Ohmori et al.* is secured to the top end of the holder 6. That is, the capstan motor 5 having the capstan shaft 22 is secured to a surface of the holder 6 which is parallel to the surface of the chassis 15. Moreover, the holder 6 is secured to the chassis 15 with the setting screw 16 on a surface of the holder 6 that is also parallel to the surface of the chassis 15. (See, e.g., Col. 5, Ins. 3-10 and Fig. 1).

Accordingly, *Ohmori et al.* fails to teach or suggest a chassis surface 15 having a cylinder 3 provided thereon and that the capstan motor 5 having the capstan shaft 22 is secured to a surface that is substantially perpendicular to the chassis surface 15. That is, the capstan motor 5 having the capstan shaft 22 has only been disclosed in *Ohmori et al.* as to be secured to the chassis surface 15 on via a surface that is parallel to the chassis surface 15.

For at least such reasons, applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is neither anticipated nor obvious in view of *Ohmori et al.* Dependent claims 2-3 may be distinguished for at least the same reasons. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

III. CONCLUSION

Accordingly, all claims 1-9 are believed to be allowable and the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner feel that a telephone interview would be helpful to facilitate favorable prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Application No.: 10/802,238

Should a petition for an extension of time be necessary for the timely reply to the outstanding Office Action (or if such a petition has been made and an additional extension is necessary), petition is hereby made and the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees (including additional claim fees) to Deposit Account No. 18-0988.

Respectfully submitted,

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